

# MONTHLY ILLINOIS SOCIETY "OF ARCHITECTS" BULLETIN

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## The Seventy-Fourth Annual Meeting of the A. I. A.

By Ralph C. Llewellyn, I. S. A. — A. I. A.

In the midst of a community often spoken of as the Cradle of Mass Production and now busy and prosperous due to the tremendous efforts its plants and factories are making for the war, delegates and members assembled at the Hotel Statler, Detroit, Sunday and Monday, June 21 and 22 for the 74th Annual Meeting of the American Institute of Architects and the meetings of several affiliated groups and organizations. Contrary to what might be expected in these times and in spite of the very evident fact that private interests interfered with the full and continuous attendance of some delegations, particularly noticeable in regard to the Chicago Chapter representation, the Convention was well attended and the delegates showed a remarkable seriousness and concern for the welfare of the profession. Interest was maintained at all sessions by a large number of delegates who participated in the discussions and who stayed until adjournment, although some sessions were long and tiring. Close to 200 delegates representing 294 votes, 55 Chapters, and 14 State Associations were present, as well as many members who were not delegates. Seventeen Chapters were not represented.

Monday was given over to the Conference of State Associations of Architects, the first session of the A. I. A. Meeting proper not being until Tuesday morning. Three long sessions were held — morning, afternoon, and evening — and the final recommendations to the Institute were not completed until a fourth session was held early Tuesday morning. Inasmuch as this day should be of special interest to Illinois Society members, some detail will be indulged in.

State Association Director of the Institute, M. W. Del Gaudio, called the first session to order at 9:15 A. M., delegates present were recorded, Mr. Leigh Hunt, former State Association Director, was introduced, also Mr. Palmer, President of the Michigan Society, who on account of some difficulty with his voice, deferred to Mr. Gamber of the Convention Committee who gave a cordial welcome to the delegates. Chairman Del Gaudio then explained that he would call on each delegation for a report as to conditions, activities, and troubles in their states, and that the morning would be used for information and discussion with the hope that some resolutions could be formulated for submission to the A. I. A. Convention at their meetings later in the week.

The Illinois Society was the first called on and President Ryan talked on his experiences in Washington on behalf of Society members and the need for more coöperation between the different architectural groups. Mr. Marshall of the Kansas Society talked on the primitive conditions in Kansas due to the thin population and the difficulty of getting any large number of architects together, the lack of legislation, the opposition to a registration law — which was vetoed after finally being passed this year. He said the Kansas Society had more members than the Chapter but that they were coöperating. They had no building code except three simple and relatively unimportant provisions in the State School Law. The Ohio Delegation said they could not add much to the troubles mentioned by Mr. Ryan, that there was no work except war work, that post war work should be discussed now because we must win the war and must be prepared for the peace afterward. They also explained the Ohio plan of unification and the need for both State Association and Chapters of the A. I. A. There are six large cities in Ohio and six Chapters. The Ohio Association is being divided into six sections to roughly correspond with these metropolitan areas and each section is functioning in close coöperation with the local

A. I. A. Chapter. To facilitate this coöperation, they are endeavoring to elect a common president and secretary for the Chapter and local section of Society.

President Shreve of the A. I. A. came into the meeting and was introduced. He said the Institute Board was interested in reaching all architects qualified to practise, that state organizations were necessary for local purposes, and that he was interested in unification — but he did not say just what he meant by unification.

Frazer Smith, Gulf States Director, said their associations were working for correction of abuses through their congressmen. The congressmen should be made to be conscious of the architect and to know what an architect is.

Peter Brust of Milwaukee said many would join the Institute if dues were lower. They now join the Association because it is cheaper than the Institute and provides some recognition. Julian Oberwarth said he did not believe architects could not afford to join the Institute, that there was no solution except by direct membership in the Institute, and that architects should be made to feel that they are welcomed as members. Director Newkirk said he had sensed a change in the attitude of the Institute and that he was 100 percent back of the unification idea.

Mr. Kleinschmidt of Texas explained the difficulties of the great distances in Texas, and said that many Association members were not qualified or ready for Institute membership. There should be more coöperation but Texas is not ready for unification.

The newest State Association in Massachusetts is apparently one of the most vigorous, having practically the same number of members as there are architects registered under the new license law which is just going into effect this year.

Talmadge Hughes presented the Michigan Plan of Unification where all members of the State Association would become members of the Michigan Chapter of the A. I. A., and this Chapter would have branches in each locality which would take the place of the present Chapters of the Institute.

And so it went, many delegates being heard and many of them repeatedly. There was much sentiment expressed in favor of unification, but it was quite evident that there was much confusion as to what unification meant. Instead of being concerned with taking Society members into the Institute in a group and creating a class of affiliated individual memberships for them and thereby increasing the strength of the actual Institute membership by six or seven thousand architects licensed to practise, many considered that unification was only concerned with liberalizing the requirements for corporate membership so that more architects would come in as individuals. It appeared that the idea of having the Institute represent the entire profession was gaining but that there was still opposition to any mass joining.

Before adjournment of the morning session, time was given to Kenneth Reid, Editor of Pencil Points, to explain the work his publication has been carrying on in Washington, through Mr. Vogel, in the interest of getting employment for the individual architect. He said that 4000 men had answered questionnaires and that the qualifications of many of these men had been made known to the Government agencies, although there was not much information divulged as to actual placement of men in positions. The real purpose of Mr. Reid's talk was to make a plea for financial support for this activity by the Institute or in some other manner, as he did



not feel that Pencil Points could longer carry all of the expense. Mr. Purves' activities as A. I. A. Washington Representative were also discussed in detail. The sentiment of the meeting seemed to be that representation in Washington was of value to the architects and should be carried on by the A. I. A. in some form.

After a recess for lunch, the meeting was reconvened in the afternoon and the discussion was carried to such subjects as the "Desirability of Uniform Requirements for Registration in the Various States", "Reciprocity of Registration Between States" — especially for architects operating close to state borders, "Uniformity of State Building Codes", "A General Advertising and Public Information Program for the Architects for the Entire Country", "Participation of Architects in State and National Affairs", "Post War Planning", etc. The discussion was long and furious with the result that by the end of the evening meeting a number of resolutions representing the sense of the meeting had been formulated and passed for presentation to the Resolutions Committee of the A. I. A. Convention for consideration later in the week. It was evident that the State Societies are live organizations that have an influence in the profession, and that they would greatly strengthen the Institute in National affairs if a way could be found to properly join forces in one closely knit national organization. In the evening recess at dinner time, most of the delegates enjoyed the hospitality and free cocktails of the Michigan Society of Architects and also of the Cincinnati delegation, who were campaigning for the assignment of the next convention to their city.

Delegates had been arriving all day and by Tuesday morning at 10:15 when President Shreve called the first session of the Annual Meeting proper to order there were between 250 and 300 present, all apparently alive and ready to go in spite of the current feeling in some quarters that the architectural profession is dying out. We had a series of cordial welcoming speeches from Prof. Lorch for the Detroit Chapter, A. N. Langius for the Grand Rapids Chapter, C. William Palmer for the Michigan Society, and his honor, Mayor Edward J. Jeffries, for the City of Detroit. The Mayor said that Detroit was a typical industrial center suffering from the same troubles of rapid growth as other large centers of population. It is a good town with a representative population and is turning out the true American Blend which will influence the future life of the country. It has opportunities for work and play, and he laughingly told the delegates if they wanted to play a little and got into trouble to call on him as he might be able to get them out if they were not in too deep.

President Shreve highlighted the work of the Board of Directors for the past year, referred delegates to the printed report of Board and Treasurer for details, and particularly thanked certain Chapters for their work and reports on certain subjects such as changes in the by-laws and a new schedule of professional charges, which were assigned on a chapter basis for study. The work of Mr. Purves, Washington Representative, was praised as being of great value in keeping the profession before the various government agencies. Some of the older members of the A. I. A. have joined hands in an effort to interpret the Institute to the Country and the Government, and the architects are receiving increasing recognition from the Government although it is still far from complete utilization of the experience, knowledge and ability available. The meetings of the Board the past year all had 100 percent attendance, which is somewhat of a record and shows the interest of the directors in the welfare of the profession. The President delighted the delegates when he recognized Past President McGinnis in the audience and called him to the platform without mentioning his name, saying that he carried a familiar pipe, wore his glasses on a shoe string, flicked them off when he wrinkled his nose, and was the "casual exponent of the unattainable in speech". Mr. McGinnis gave us an impromptu example of the latter.

The principal address of the morning was delivered by the Honorable Elbert Duncan Thomas, Senator from Utah. He gave a very able address on world conditions as they are, and prophesied that the

war (which was the culmination of the three greatest social, economic and cultural revolutions the world had ever seen) would eventually result in a new world of free nations.

The luncheon meeting was sponsored by the Michigan Society of Architects, Clair Ditchy, genial chairman of the Arrangements Committee, presiding. Louis La Beaume of St. Louis and Roger Allen of Detroit, two of the best known wits in the profession vied with each other in reciting poetry — much to the amusement of the audience. It was Roger's birthday and he was greeted by resounding "Happy Birthday" led by the Detroit Chapter.

The Tuesday afternoon meeting was presided over by Edmund R. Purves, A. I. A. Washington Representative, and was given over to a discussion of the position of the architectural profession today. The gist was that we are in the war, the architects along with everyone else must help win it, and must plan for after the war. The profession must adjust itself to the situation, must take part in public affairs and show its ability to take commanding positions after the war. Albert B. Tibbetts, Chairman of the Producers' Council Committee, brought out some of the advantages we were getting from the war in the way of the development of new materials and Alfred F. Bieter, Representative in Congress from New York and author of the Post War Planning Bill, went into detail as to the needs of the country after the war and the work the architect would have to do. There was interesting discussion from the floor until 5 P. M. when most delegates repaired to the Ball Room and participated in a very pleasant social time at the President's Reception. A good number of ladies, who had not been in evidence before, made their appearance and added to the enjoyment of the occasion.

The evening session was given over to the award of honors. Among them was a Fellowship awarded to David Adler of Chicago.

The Wednesday morning meeting was a business session and a very busy one. The Credentials Committee made its report. Nominations for officers were called for with the result that all present officers except the treasurer, and also five new directors, were elected by acclamation due to lack of a contest. The treasurer's office received two nominations with the result that Raymond J. Ashton of Salt Lake City was elected over the incumbent treasurer, John R. Fugard of Chicago. Mr. Del Gaudio of New York made a report and presented resolutions resulting from the Monday meetings of the State Associations. These resolutions asked for complete unification in general terms among other things, and there was much discussion of the means of liberalizing the membership. The Board of Directors had proposed an associate class of members as an inducement to get new members, but it developed that there was no difference between the associate and corporate class requirements except the amount of dues, and this proposal was voted down. There were many changes in the By-Laws and Rules of the Board which had been proposed and printed in order to simplify the workings of the Institute in these times, which were taken up one at a time and for the most part passed. The State Associations got an increase in representation in the A. I. A. by being allowed one delegate for each fifty members instead of one for each seventy as formerly. Also amendments were passed to the Schedule of Charges, giving recognition to a special rate other than six percent in unusual cases of repetitive nature and of great magnitude such as some of the present plants being built for the war.

After a lunch sponsored by the Producers' Council Inc., at which President Plimpton gave some of the history of the Producers' Council, a long afternoon meeting was opened under the chairmanship of Vice President Walter R. MacCornack. The theme of this session was post war planning and reconstruction. Dal Hitchcock, Chief of the Post War Division of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, made an earnest speech defending the Government from the accusation that it was attempting to socialize the country and especially the post war activities. These fears are "straw men" not supported by the facts. If Government does the job, we lose the System of

(Continued on Page 7, Column 1)



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**Editor Monthly Bulletin**

ARTHUR WOLTERS DORF, 520 NORTH MICHIGAN AVE., CHICAGO

**1942-1943 I. S. A. Committees with Chairmen**

Membership.....	Herman L. Palmer
Legislative.....	Benjamin F. Olson
Public Action.....	Charles A. Urbanek
Entertainment.....	Leo J. Weissenborn
Materials & Methods.....	Francis A. Flaks
Building Valuations.....	George F. Schreiber
Housing.....	Godfrey E. Larson
Credentials.....	Eugene Fuhrer
Publicity.....	Arthur Woltersdorf
Legal Service.....	Entire Board of Directors

The Illinois Society's regular meeting, falling on September 22, will be a pilgrimage to Evanston for a 4 P. M. inspection with guidance of the new Northwestern Technological Institute. At 6:30 P. M. the Society will have its dinner and business meeting in an Evanston hotel to be selected later.

At the regular Board meeting of the Illinois Society of Architects, July 14 the following resolution was passed without a dissenting vote.

WHEREAS, Richard E. Schmidt, eminent Chicago architect of long standing and member of the Illinois Society of Architects through many years, was persuaded eight years ago by Chicago's Mayor, Edward J. Kelly, to administer the office of Commissioner of Buildings, which assignment Mr. Schmidt accepted as a public duty, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Schmidt's administration of that office has been marked throughout by impartial application of the state and city building laws and ordinances, with which no man is more familiar, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Officers and Board of Directors of the Illinois Society of Architects in regular meeting assembled, that they hereby express their sincere appreciation to Mr. Schmidt for his unflagging devotion to duty and impartial administration in upholding the law.

The resolution was ordered engrossed for presentation to Mr. Schmidt at a testimonial luncheon held in the Union League Club on Tuesday, August 4.

Paul Gerhardt, Jr., past president of the Illinois Society of Architects, has been appointed Chicago's Commissioner of Buildings to succeed Richard E. Schmidt. Gerhardt will retain his post as city architect.

In the light of the efforts of the Chicago Plan Commission, their technical staff, and their Advisory Board to eliminate blight and push redevelopment of many areas in the city Walter Curt Behrendt's article *What Retards Urban Reconstruction?* appearing in June, '42 Pencil Points is of particular interest. After reviewing the past of American city building and pointing to Sinclair Lewis' *Babbitt* as typical of the realtor promoter, he quotes a realtor writing in a trade journal as follows: "Assuming the place of kings and emperors, who in ancient times fostered the rise and growth of cities, the real estate subdivider and the business district operator now sway and direct the future of cities in the making."

Mr. Behrendt looks hopefully on the suggestion of Alvin H. Hansen and Guy Greer, prominent economists who would remove the obstacle of high land charges by having the land acquired by municipalities with the financial aid of the Federal Government. The land would then be leased by the municipality to private enterprise for use with restrictions. The Hansen-Greer scheme would help to solve the financial problem of redevelopment projects. The gains which formerly flowed into private pockets will become losses that must be socialized. Mr. Behrendt says further that before projects of modern planners can be realized needed modifications of the existing social order must be introduced. Progress now is retarded by the discrepancy between our ingenuity and technical skill in physical planning and our capacity of social assimilation.

Only through an enlightened and well informed public opinion, strong enough to enforce action, can we hope to make substantial headway in rejuvenating our cities by large scale reconstruction, according to Mr. Behrendt.

The Chicago Plan Commission is hopeful that private capital will feel induced to acquire large areas, say one-quarter square mile in extent, and rebuild, change or eliminate subordinate streets all according to the recent Urban Redevelopment act passed by the state legislature.

The Landis Award Employers' Association Inc. is growing active again and rightly so after a period of dormancy. Following World War I this public spirited corporation was organized so that *democracy and life, liberty and pursuit of happiness* for the worker in the building arts and for the investor should not become dead letters. Now we are in World War II and labor union satraps and racketeers are giving orders to labor deleterious to victory in this war. Labor union members, generally speaking, have no voice. If you doubt this read Pegler's syndicated articles in the press.

This Landis Association is appealing to the industry, including the architects, for financial support to put up a fight against repeating the criminal high-handedness that was practiced in the Chicago territory more than 20 years ago. The Association is deserving of strong support.

"In philosophy I recognize no separable thing called aesthetics; and what has gone by the name of the philosophy of art, like the so-called philosophy of history, seems to me sheer verbiage. There is in art nothing but manual knack and professional tradition on the practical side, and on the contemplative side pure intuition of essence, with the inevitable intellectual or luxurious pleasure which pure intuition involves."

—George Santayana



## Forty-Fifth Illinois Society Annual Meeting

Fifty-five members, a few accompanied by their wives or daughters, attended the forty-fifth annual meeting of the Illinois Society of Architects held in the quarters of the Chicago Bar Association on June 30. They assembled before 6:00 o'clock and the day having been very warm the libations offered were refreshing and stimulated companionability.

After a good dinner in the big dining room, President Ryan extended a formal welcome to all and began the session by having Secretary Newhouse read briefed minutes of the May meeting. Victor Matteson read his brief of the annual reports of standing committees for the year 1941-42. This brief will be found in another column of this issue.

President Ryan commented on the delinquency of committees as gleaned from Mr. Matteson's report. He deplored the fact that men accepted committee appointments without feeling responsibility for the effort the committee owes the Society. He contrasted the work of the Society's committees with conscientiousness shown by the committees that had reported to the 74th annual meeting of the A. I. A. at Detroit.

Mr. Ryan made an extensive verbal report of the Detroit meeting of state associations held on June 22 and 23 and the A. I. A. meeting on June 23, 24, and 25 to which both he and Treasurer Llewellyn had been elected by the Society as delegates. This report will not cover all the subjects touched upon by Mr. Ryan since Treasurer Llewellyn's official resumé of these Detroit meetings is featured in this issue. Suffice it to say that Mr. Ryan touched on what was said apropos the socialization of architecture, Washington jobs for architects, post war planning and other subjects. He reminded his hearers that membership in state societies numbered approximately 8,000, that the country held about 10,000 practicing architects, and that the Institute now had seventy-two chapters.

This reporter observed that the Chicago Chapter at the national meeting while accredited with eleven or twelve delegates had but four registered on the bulletin board of delegates attending the meeting. More than four came but they flitted across the scene like fleeting shadows, phantoms, and were not heard from the floor. These phantoms included Loeb, Owings, Shaw, Merrill, perhaps others. While New York, Philadelphia, Texas and other chapters were audible through their delegates, the Chicago Chapter was silent throughout.

Mr. Matteson proposed a vote of thanks to the President for his penetrating, exhaustive report of the A. I. A. Detroit meeting which was unanimously carried with applause.

The report of tellers, having counted the vote, came next. On page 3 of this issue the names of officers elected to carry on the Society for the 1942-43 year will be found.

The speaker of the evening, Professor Clarence E. Watson, Northwestern University, speaking on "The Co-operative Plan at Northwestern University, its Origin, Philosophy, and Operation" was introduced. The Professor began by telling of the fine new technological school buildings, designed by Holabird & Root, Architects, showing a rubble faced Lanin stone wall exterior whose plan is like two capital E's back to back. There are ten acres of available floor space. The teaching at the Institute is modelled after that of Cincinnati University which was a pioneer in this country in alternating the student work between theory in the school and practical work in shops and laboratories. So the student at Northwestern Technological Institute will have three months of school work alternating with three months of work in such institutions as International Harvester, Du Pont, Western Electric, Commonwealth Edison and the like. The student will be expected to impress his superiors with his knowledge, applicability and alertness in applying the theory he has absorbed in school so that his employer will want him returned at the next period of practical application. Enrolled at present are about 500. The eventual limit will be 850.

A question period followed with answers by Mr. Watson and the evening ended with a desire on the part of the membership to hold a meeting in the fall in the Technological Institute at Evanston.

Governor Dwight H. Green of Illinois has appointed Thomas E. O'Donnell, Associate Professor of Architecture, University of Illinois, to represent the Central Illinois Chapter A. I. A. on the Works and Housing Advisory Committee of the Illinois State Council.

## Brief of Reports of Standing Committees, 1941-42

In order to save time at the Annual Meeting, a brief of the annual reports of the chairmen of the several standing committees is submitted herewith. The original reports are on file available for reference.

Reports have been received from six of the nine committee chairmen.

### Membership Committee, Herman L. Palmer, Chairman

The present membership of the I. S. A. consists of a total of 263 members of which 250 are regular members, two are honorary and eleven are emeritus members.

The Society has lost five members during the year through death and two through resignation. Eight former members have been reinstated and twelve new members have been added. Two members have been transferred to the emeritus list during the past year.

### Legislative Committee, Benjamin F. Olson, Chairman

It is the belief of this committee that many municipalities throughout the State are in favor of the enactment of a State Building Code, and are awaiting the mustering of a group competent to organize the machinery, political and otherwise, including the financial means and publicity necessary to secure the passage of such an act. It is believed that the I. S. A. should be the leader in this movement. The committee has urged the passage of the Lanham Act and Senate Bill 1617 by mail solicitation, and the Chairman has personally addressed the Building Officials Section of the Illinois Municipal League at its annual convention last October, on the subject.

War restrictions by the Federal Government have affected architects adversely as there will probably be little or no private construction for some time. These hardships must be accepted as a part of the architects' contribution to the success of the war.

### Public Action Committee, Marvin Probst, Chairman

No report has been received, and it is assumed that there has been no work for this committee during the year.

### Materials and Methods Committee, Francis A. Flaks, Chairman

No report has been received, and it is assumed that there has been no work for this committee during the year.

### Building Valuations Committee, Eugene Fuhrer, Chairman

The fluctuating condition of the construction field during the past year, added to the recent practical elimination of private construction, has made the continuation of the study of building valuations during this period of so little permanent value that the committee has little progress to report.

### Small House Committee, Bertram A. Weber, Chairman

With governmental restrictions on house building, all small house building is dependent on the approval and co-operation of federal agencies, and new construction in excess of \$6,000 has practically stopped. At the present time the 3,000 house units allocated to the Chicago area have been assigned and no more priority applications for the purchase of materials for small houses are being accepted.

The current federal small house war housing program is planned for large scale operations both as to planning, construction, renting and merchandising. Architects desiring to take part in this program must head, or become members of organizations capable of handling complete services of this kind on a large scale, rapidly and efficiently. There is an increasing trend toward government handling of the bulk of war housing.

In response to an appeal in January by the FHA this committee mailed a circular letter to all architects in the Chicago area advising them that sketches were desired by the FHA suitable for defense housing, to be exhibited in the office of the FHA. There were very few responses.

### Credentials Committee, Henry L. Newhouse, Chairman

Four members of the Society applied for registration through the National Council of Registration Boards. One architect, dropped from the Society for non-payment of dues, referred to membership in the Society in his application. One architect, never having been a member of the Society, stated that he was a member in his application. No mention is made as to what disposition was made of these cases by the N.C.R.B.

### Publicity Committee, Herman L. Palmer, Chairman

Advantage has been taken of every opportunity to secure favor-

(Continued on Page 5, Column 2)



## Chicago Chapter Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Chicago Chapter, A. I. A. fell on June 9 and was observed, in part at least, as a joint meeting with the Producers' Council Club of Chicago. It was held in the quarters of the Merchants and Manufacturers Club in the Merchandise Mart. It had three arms or tentacles. First arm, an exhibit of materials for substitution of materials restricted or prohibited by the Government because of the war. This was thrown open at 5 P. M. and remained open to the end of the program. About 6 P. M. occurred the business meeting of the Chapter restricted to Chapter members and held in a smaller room. After this meeting came cocktails and a dinner participated in by Producers' Council Club members as well as architects. The speaking program for all began soon after 8 P. M. attended by about 150 men.

The Chapter's business meeting reviewed the work of committees during the Chapter year. President Loeb appointed a member to review these committee reports and make a synopsis. The membership was promised this synopsis through the mails. Treasurer Marx reported the finances of the Chapter in good condition and President Loeb stated that the balance in banks was greater than had been the case through previous administrations. Names of delegates to the A. I. A. annual meeting at Detroit, June 23-25, were read.

An election of officers and directors for the coming year was consummated, that is, the one ticket in the field had no opposition and the Secretary was ordered to cast a ballot for unanimous election. The newly elected officers are President, Nathaniel Owings; First Vice President Paul Gerhardt, Jr.; Second Vice President, Alfred P. Shaw; Secretary, W. Lindsay Suter; Assistant Secretary, Robert Allen Ward; Treasurer, Samuel A. Marx. Director for four years, Jerrold Loeb; for two years, Charles Dornbusch; for one year, Alfred P. Shaw and John Cromelin.

Punch bowls flowed and did their expected duty in creating companionship. Then came a good dinner in a much larger room where the regular program was presented. The theme song of all the speeches on the program was "The Conservation of Critical Materials in Wartime Construction." President Peter Howell of the Producers' Council Club of Chicago opened the speechifying by welcoming all to this joint meeting and then called upon Jerrold Loeb (up to half an hour of the dinner President of the Chicago Chapter) to be toastmaster during the evening. He introduced all those at the speakers' table where there was a sprinkling of men in officers' uniforms of the Navy and the Army.

Russell G. Creviston, Crane Company executive and past President of the Producers' Council, Inc., told of the Council's supplying, for the last 21 years, reports and illustrations of new products, new inventions, new applications of materials to building through the Council's quarterly bulletin mailed regularly to all architects.

Elmer C. Jensen, Chicago architect, F.A.I.A., past Director, A. I. A., past President Chicago Chapter A. I. A., past President I. S. A., past President Chicago Building Congress, read a paper devoted to the building industry's faithful resolve to do everything possible to save for the war effort all necessary building materials and content ourselves with substitutes often new and untried for the sole purpose of achieving victory in the war in the shortest possible time.

Captain Ralph D. Spalding, C.E.C., U. S. Navy, Public Works Officer, 9th Naval District, earnestly pleaded for new inventions, new substitutions, new methods which the Navy open-mindedly would welcome to the same end, namely, victory.

Colonel Charles Keller, District Engineer, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, the next speaker, had been called out of town and Major Humphreys substituted. He pleaded for the Army as did Captain Spalding for the Navy.

The last speaker was Oscar W. Rosenthal, President Chicago Building Congress, President Builders' Association of Chicago, and President of the Chicago Chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America. Mr. Rosenthal is an interesting Chicago product. After leaving school, he served a number of years in the Chicago Public Library. From there he entered the building field becoming, in time, a large general contractor. He represents the state of Illinois as a housing official and in very recent years has probably had little time to devote to his private business, his attention being demanded by the public bodies which he serves. He is a forceful

and dramatic orator and his climactic periods are eloquent. True to form, he mentioned clashes that our armed forces had had with the enemy, our resolve to win victory, and sat down midst great applause.

And so the 73rd year in the life of the Chicago Chapter ended. Its founding in 1869 occurred when Chicago had barely 250,000 inhabitants. Today we number between 3 and 4,000,000. At its start the architects had neither steel nor aluminum, no electric power, no insulating board, no plywood, no telephone, the crudest forms of central heating, no air conditioning. Great advances in methods, inventions, applications have been introduced in the meantime. In 1869 the membership of the Chapter was eighteen. They held the torch of progress in architecture and they did their work well. Through the years many served on public bodies often without pay. The history of the Chapter is an interesting story which, in all likelihood, is a terra incognita to the newly elected Chapter officers. Yet they should be conversant with the Chapter's background. It is suggested that each officer read the special history number published by the Chapter in April, 1929 as "The Leaflet."

At the four day meeting in Pittsburgh of the Building Officials Conference of America, V. G. Iden, secretary of the American Institute of Steel Construction, said that three years of war experience in Europe has proved that steel bridges and steel frame buildings have provided the greatest degree of safety against modern warfare.

P. Vermilya, FHA director of the technical division, stressed the relation of building regulations to private wartime housing and urged enactment of legislation necessary to permit substitutes to be used for temporary housing construction. But he said: "Such legislation should not be an excuse for shoddy construction, but rather a municipality must learn to use less materials and less labor in construction."

The National Conference on Planning at Indianapolis, Ind., May 25-27, voiced attempts to break down zoning restrictions under the guise of aiding the war effort as one of the chief worries of many cities. The Conference urged analyzing proposed changes in zoning laws to determine whether such changes were simply an attempt to gain privileges in the name of victory which could not be obtained under ordinary circumstances.

In Scandinavia they are making large roomy arm chairs out of one sheet of plywood without addition of any other material. The only waste in the sheet is the inverted u-shaped piece cut out to form the front legs. Bending is done by pressure and heat while the glue, usually a phenolic resin, is soft. After cooling the shape is rigidly held.

### (Reports Brief — Continued from Page 4, Column 2)

able publicity for the Society. The Press has been liberal in publishing notices of monthly meetings, and has sent representatives to report many of them. Nothing has occurred to give us unusual beneficial publicity.

#### Legal Service Committee, (Entire Board of Directors)

No call has been made upon this committee for its services.

#### Entertainment Committee, William P. Fox, Chairman

No report has been received from the chairman of this committee. However, through the good offices of the editor of the Bulletin, data has been secured for the following report as a substitute.

During the year nine monthly meetings have been held, with speakers at eight of these meetings. The largest attendance, sixty, occurred at the November meeting when the Building Code was discussed by the Building Commissioner, Richard E. Schmidt. The October meeting was held at Champaign-Urbana with an attendance of forty, which included an inspection tour of the U. of I. buildings. The average attendance at meetings is about forty-eight.

#### Financial Secretary, Herman L. Palmer

A report dated June 29 was received after the annual meeting of June 30 from the Financial Secretary as follows.

Collections from June 8, 1941, to June 29, 1942	
Dues and Initiation Fees.....	\$2289.85
Forms sold on account.....	121.22
Forms sold for cash.....	64.92
Miscellaneous receipts .....	27.36
	\$2503.35

Respectfully submitted,

Victor A. Matteson



## Camouflage

The camoufleur who uses nets, chicken wire, paints and assorted materials must not fail; if he errs the loss in human life and vital property may be very great. He must succeed in mystifying and confusing the trained eyes of enemy observers. Camouflage, then, is the technique of concealing the identity and location of given objects for the purpose of befuddling the enemy.

In modern warfare the problems confronting the camouflage expert are somewhat different than those encountered in the last war. When recalling the impressions left by the camouflage techniques in the last war, most people immediately remember the zigzag or dazzle paint system of concealment. This method was used to paint ship transports and to camouflage gun emplacements. Sniper posts were hidden in dummy trees, and dummy animal carcasses were made of papier mache, and placed about the battle fields. This type of concealment was used primarily to hide and shield from observation all objects that could otherwise be seen by the enemy stationed in observation balloons, or in low-flying planes, and by military observers on the ground.

Today, the technique has changed. The swift bombing and observation planes flying at 10,000 to 30,000 feet are not particularly concerned with how small groups of soldiers conceal themselves. Their main mission and purpose is to cripple and destroy bigger game, large munition depots, steel plants and water works. The average precision bombing raid is carried out at 10,000 feet at amazing speeds — up to 350 miles per hour. The bombardier must be able to sight his objective or some known close reference point, and quickly set his sights in a time limit of about 40 to 50 seconds. If he fails to do this he must return over the target for another attempt. He knows his return trip will give the anti-aircraft guns below additional time to get him in their sights, and make it extremely unpleasant for himself and his crew members.

Camouflage, therefore, does not necessarily mean complete concealment in all cases. A delay in the adjustment of sights by the enemy bombardier means that the first step toward protective concealment has been accomplished. Successful camouflage of any target involves consideration of form, shadow, texture, and color.

**Form.** There are no straight lines or right angles in nature, and for effective camouflage any man-made angles or lines on the landscape must be eliminated by some method of concealment. Straight roads may be painted out in certain sections leading to a vital spot by the use of colored bituminous emulsion, used to simulate the appearance of grass when seen from the air. A fake road taking a false course can be installed by the use of cold protein paint, paste or powder form, in colors to match the main road. Such paint can usually be applied with a spray gun.

Large factories and plants with their many straight roof lines and rows of windows can best be hidden by nets interwoven with shredded canvas or cloth painted to blend with the surroundings, temporary wooden superstructures projecting beyond the edges of the roof, or by real and painted bushes installed on the roof tops. These garnished nets are dyed or painted to simulate foliage texture. Old branches and leaves are sometimes used to cover the nets.

Nature's colors, however, change with the seasons, so that any colors used to imitate nature must be changed also. Autumn leaves covering any object in the Spring would be an ineffective deception, easily recognized. Temporary installations must always conform to their natural colors, that is, colors of the surrounding areas. It is sometimes more advisable to plant natural bushes, trees, or shrubs, and thus eliminate the necessity of closely following nature's many changes.

**Shadows.** The second, and equally important problem, is one of camouflaging shadows cast by the objects themselves. Sometimes these straight shadows are even more visible from the air than the target.

Shadows may be broken up at their source by the same methods used in concealing form, that is by nets, paint, and bushes or trees. To absorb the tell-tale shadows on the ground it is often necessary to stain the surrounding grass areas in a dark color to break up or confuse the real shape of the shadow.

**Texture.** Proper texture of the target surface is also important. Painting a fake roadway or grass plot across a flat roof by the use of paint alone is ineffective. Although the colors may exactly match the road or the grass, the imitation will be easily recognized from the air because of the texture of the flat surface. Different surfaces give off varying amount of reflection.

To offset this condition, artificial textures are used by the simple method of mixing paint with dyed wood shavings, sawdust, or ground rock, to break up the natural smooth surface of the objects being concealed. This necessity for texture explains one reason why pres-

ent-day camouflage paints are in flat colors. The obvious reason for the use of flat paints is the absence of any gloss reflection which would be easily detected by the eyes of the trained observer. To gain additional texture other flat paints are sometimes mixed with sand and roofing granules.

**Color.** Color in camouflage work is probably not as important as form, shadow, and texture; but any color used, not directly related to the colors in the natural surroundings, would be easily recognized. Colors are hard to identify when observed from high altitudes. Fog, smoke, and distance tend to make all colors appear gray.

**Models.** The many intricate patterns and colors of nature must therefore be closely followed when an attempt is made to carry these patterns over an object being camouflaged. As camouflage problems become more complex and the objects to be concealed become larger and more unrelated to their surroundings, it is sometimes very helpful to construct scale models. They are usually made of wood, clay, sponges, and cloth, and then painted in the proper plan decided upon. The model will, in most instances, illustrate on a small scale what to expect in the finished camouflage job.

—Edwin R. Crick, Jr. in "Pittsburgh Plate Products"

## Comfort for Chicago Subway Patrons

Charles E. DeLeuw of the Department of Subways and Superhighways told the American Institute of Electrical Engineers of the following comfort and safety measures incorporated in the new Chicago subway.

At nearly every station escalators will relieve weary feet. Eight and ten foot fans will bring in fresh air. Soft fluorescent light will illuminate stations and platforms while incandescent lamps will light the tunnels.

Modern lightweight cars, seating 106 persons and carrying 200, will travel as much as 45 miles per hour, smoothly and quietly over welded rails. Mr. DeLeuw regretted that the new cars will not be ready at the time of the expected opening early in 1943. Older cars will have to be used temporarily. But congestion, it is anticipated, will be relieved downtown as soon as travel begins.

## Sand Is New Insulating Material

Puffed-up sand, technically known as silica aerogel, is about twice as good a heat insulator as any other substance, John F. White of the research department of Monsanto Chemical Company told the American Institute of Chemical Engineers meeting in Boston.

The material is now being used chiefly in the insulation of high-temperature laboratory furnaces and extremely low-temperature chambers for the liquefaction and freezing of gases, Dr. White said.

When peace comes and new household refrigerators appear in the stores, the present three-inch walls can be reduced to one and a half inches, he said. The present six and a half cubic foot model can have its inside expanded to nine cubic feet without any increase of outside dimensions.

—Science News Letter

## Retiring New York Chapter A. I. A. President Says

"Tops among the more boring duties wished upon us—this one by special dispensation of our National President—was beginning the revision of the Hand-Book of Architectural Practice. I say 'beginning' because the Hand-Book was something like a Remington-Rand Edition of the Holy Bible. We worked like the devil without getting even a satisfactory card index on the Ten Commandments. So the President took it away from us and sent it to the House of Lords in Boston whence it will doubtless emerge as a good King James version with a high polish and a slight odor of cod."

Members of the Illinois Society of Architects who listened to Robert M. Stack and Merle Sweet address the Society on May 26 on the subject of camouflage will be interested to know of a newly published book "Industrial Camouflage Manual" by Konrad F. Wittmann, A. I. A., chief of Pratt Institute's camouflage program, containing illustrations and diagrams on 128 plates, bound. The book is published by Reinhold Publishing Corporation, price \$4.00.



## (A.I.A. Meet — Continued from Page 2, Column 2)

Free Enterprise. To maintain our American System we must have resurgence of business prosperity after the war, and this is what the Government wants. It is prepared to help private business attain this end and thus survive. Three speakers went into long explanations of the Hansen-Greer, Urban Land Institute and the FHA plans for post war assembling of the land and rebuilding of sizable sections of cities. Captain Reiss, a British representative of the construction industry, gave us some of the experiences and lessons to be learned from housing programs in England. He said that they could teach us site planning but that we could give them many pointers on details such as heating, ventilation, kitchen equipment, etc. Russell G. Creviston spoke on the manufacturers' point of view and said there were two parts to the problem — (1) immediate activity and (2) long view planning. The immediate problem starts in our own companies and trades. We must continually be developing new substitutes and materials in order to keep our plants going. For the long term we must get away from paternalism, must stand on our own feet, take a greater interest in the welfare of the community, and increase our capacity and efficiency and thus be worthy of our existence. G. A. Jellicoe, a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects, gave some experiences during the war in England and said that they were determined that some of the things that happened after the last war should not happen again. It was a long and rather tiring session but there was much information to be gained by those delegates who stayed as most of them did.

Probably the high light of the convention occurred Wednesday evening when the Statler Ball Room was filled to overflowing for the Annual Dinner, at which close to 500 were present. The guest of honor was Albert Kahn, who was given a special Institute medal for his achievements in the Industrial Field and for his war work. Lt. Gen. Knudsen had come from Washington to tell of his work with Kahn in former years and, just as he started to speak, Detroit staged a practise blackout which added to the picturesqueness of the occasion as big, broad shouldered and rugged Gen. Knudsen told his story in the dim light and shadows of a small spotlight and in the rather primitive language of his early days in the shop. Secretary Ingham read the citation and President Shreve presented the medal. Albert Kahn read a long reply and seemed to sincerely appreciate the honor done him. It was encouraging to hear him say that from the bottom of his heart he was glad to note that some architectural groups, recently formed, were receiving some of the war contracts. The very interesting evening ended after the President had called three past presidents—Russell, Hammond, and McGinnis — to the platform and each had made a response.

Thursday was given over to the final business sessions of the Institute. Resolutions were passed covering the results of discussions at the earlier meetings. Resolutions of thanks were voted, results of the election announced and made official, and adjournment was finally voted at the evening session. Before this, however, the afternoon had been given over to one of the finest and most interesting events of the week. This was a trip to Cranbrook Academy and Art School developed on the estate of Geo. G. Booth, and which has been the vehicle by which Eliel Saarinen, Finnish Architect who came to this country at the time of the Tribune Tower Competition, has built his national reputation. The architects thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon wandering over the lawns and among the flowers of the large estate. A new Library and Art Museum has been recently built in thoroughly modern style, and then there was the Scientific Institute and the earlier buildings of the boys' and girls' schools. An outdoor meeting was held in the Greek Theatre, at which Geo. G. Booth was honored for his contribution to the arts and the development of the community by the presentation of a special citation of the Institute. Prof. Emil Lorch, who has been closely in touch with the entire development, made the address and Mr. Booth graciously responded and accepted the engrossed document. Ex-President McGinnis read a paper in his subtle language,

in which he spoke of revolution and gave the impression that he was not entirely in sympathy with the ultra-modern architecture represented by the new buildings on the grounds. The weather was perfect and all present will certainly remember the afternoon as one of the high lights of the meeting.

Although there were trips scheduled to the Ford plant and Greenfield Village for Friday, which no doubt were very much worth while, your delegates did not stay over but returned to Chicago on the night train with the feeling that the Annual Meeting of the A. I. A. had demonstrated that there still were architects that were up and coming and that the profession would rise again when the world turns from Destructive to Constructive activities.

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## Hagia Sophia

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Every architect knows that Hagia Sophia in Constantinople (Istanbul) stands supreme as the triumphant culmination of Justinian's reign which for number and magnificence of its architectural creations is rivalled only by that of Rameses the Great. Hagia Sophia was and remains the last word in Byzantine architecture.

The church by that name, now standing, was begun February 23, 532 A.D.; completed and dedicated December 27, 537. Anthemius was the architect. An earthquake caused the central dome to fall December 14, 557, 20 years after its completion. The rebuilding was soon begun and completed in 563. This rebuilding was under the care of Isidorus the Younger, architect. He gave the dome a sharper curve bringing the crown 20 feet higher than that of the first dome.

The second dome, with an adjoining half dome, was destroyed by earthquake in 989. It was all rebuilt by 994.

Then in 1344 occurred an earthquake that so weakened a supporting arch that it collapsed with half of the central dome in 1346. Restoration began without delay but the Empire by now was weak and impoverished so it was not till 1356 that the restorations were completed. This was the last important work carried out on Hagia Sophia by Greek hands.

"After the Turkish capture of Constantinople Mohammed the Conqueror consecrated Hagia Sophia to the service of the Mohammedan faith. The crescent supplanted the cross on the summit of the dome and a *mihrab* was erected in the curve of the sanctuary apse off-center to the south, thus indicating to the faithful the direction of Mecca."

The Mohammedans respected the great structure and while they covered much of the figure-mosaics with paint and whitewash they did not obliterate all. Under Mustapha Kemal Attaturk, in recent years, the building was thrown open to foreign archeologists and scholars. In the early 1930's Professor Thomas Whittemore of the Byzantine Institute of America began uncovering the mosaics. For a description of the work carried out under Professor Whittemore see Professor Van Derpool's article on "Saint Sophia's Mosaics Revealed" in the February-March 1935 Illinois Society of Architects' Monthly Bulletin.

A recently published monograph of Hagia Sophia, written by Emerson Howland Swift of Columbia University and issued by the Columbia University press, gives a complete history of the building with an extensive bibliography and many footnotes.

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Dr. Leicester B. Holland of the Library of Congress who is chairman of the committee on Preservation of Historic Buildings reports that the March 1, 1941 catalogue of photographs and measured drawings made of the Historic American Buildings Survey is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, for \$1.25 a copy. The catalogue lists 2,693 structures drawn and photographed and 3,696 recorded only in photographs.

Altogether, since 1934, 39,940 reproductions of measured drawings have been sold and 20,478 photographic prints.

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Under the title "Fortress of Freedom," Lucy Salamanca tells the story of the Library of Congress (Lippincott, \$4.00). The institution began 140 years ago and has grown to be the largest national library in the world.



## Watch Tower Inn, Black Hawk State Park

The new Watch Tower Inn was dedicated this July 19th, bringing to a close the eight year program beginning in 1934. The work was carried on intermittently on isolated units, passed through "no funds" years, began twice with fresh starts and finally ended with a unified, completed whole, and strange as it may seem, the original conception was carried out.

The plan, construction and architecture is interesting because of the unique conditions under which it was erected. Portions were built when labor was plentiful and material was scarce (C.C.C. and National Park Service co-operation) while another section represents the contract system where labor is more expensive than the materials. The Museum and Dining Room represent the first phase and were built under conditions prevailing during the Middle Ages. The boys quarried the stone, hauled it to the site where it was cut and laid. Nearby, on the estate of a public spirited citizen, live oaks were chosen, felled, and trimmed for roof trusses and lintels. They were then stood on end against chains stretched between trees and seasoned by giving them a quarter turn each week for several months. Wrought iron was beaten into locks and hinges. Odd lots of discarded clay shingle tile were purchased, and the final result is one of age, charm and beauty.

The Central Lounge, the covered passage connecting the museum and Dining Room, and the furnishings were just completed by contract. Here the concrete foundations are of a former building, the walls are of stone veneer, trusses are of fir, and the interior is sheathed with western white pine. The problem of achieving a unified result was difficult.

The building is situated on a bluff high above the Rock River on the southern edge of Rock Island, Illinois. The term "Watch Tower" dates back to Indian lore. This spot was used by them to control the beautiful valley for miles in three directions. It was the favorite resort of Black Hawk, famed leader of the nation of Sauk and Fox Tribes which conquered and ruled all of Iowa, northern Missouri, part of Illinois and southwestern Wisconsin.

When civilization caught up with them and the settlers staked their claims in the Indian cornfields, they disagreed regarding the validity of treaties with the United States. Black Hawk with some 2,000 men, women and children refused to leave, resulting in the Black Hawk war of 1831-32 in which his following was practically annihilated by exposure, starvation, battle and massacre.

The tract of 200 acres was purchased by the State of Illinois in 1927 from the Tri-Cities Railways Company who used it as an amusement park and terminal of the city street car system. There were "chute-the-chutes", other "Coney Island" features and the Watch Tower Inn, a white two story columned and pedimented wooden structure. By 1934 the other features had been eliminated but the "white elephant" remained to cut deeply into maintenance budgets. A civilian conservation corps camp was established at the park and the building was used by the officials and foreman of the National Park Service. It was decided to eventually wreck it and on its wonderful site erect a suitable structure including a museum to house a fine collection of Indian relics collected and donated by John E. Hauberg of Rock Island. Dining and lounge facilities were to be included and the old foundations were to be re-used. Overnight facilities were not included because of its proximity to Rock Island. A complete and final scheme was drawn and approved. First, the museum was built at one end, then the dining room and kitchen was erected at the other and in the meantime the men were housed in the old "Inn". At the close of the C.C.C. period the wooden structure was wrecked down to the first floor which was covered and railed to serve for a few years as a terrace. The museum was opened to the public and was heated by the old boiler but the dining room stood mute as a silent and patient reminder of the completed stage to come.

Finally the necessary funds were appropriated and now the building stands complete and open for service.

It has no particular style architecturally. At the time we were designing this building we were engrossed in the restoration of Fort Chartres and since both projects are of stone, heavy timbers and iron we thought it appropriate to work along similar lines, since local conditions called for no particular style. So, upon close examination, some of its details have an American French Colonial military flavor, but in general it is an irregular mass of stone, with low eaves

and large expanses of dark red clay shingles and dormers, stretching along the ridge of the river bluff. Now it stands completed a tribute to a devotion to unswerving purpose. The original conception was brought to its conclusion overcoming all intervening problems and obstacles.

—Joseph F. Booton, Chief of Design

Division of Architecture and Engineering, State of Illinois

## Masterbuilders and Architect Engineers

*The Editor:* The Architectural Forum issued under date of May 29, a circular letter addressed to "Dear Mr. Engineer" which states among other things, the following:

"A minimum of 400,000 additional housing units will be designed and built by December 31, 1942. Like other government work this huge commission will go to professionals who seek it and who understand the procedures and complex problems involved. In this and all phases of the program the experience of engineers, who are already active in war housing, can be invaluable."

In justice to the Forum it should be stated that a similar letter was addressed to architects.

Here is another indication of a trend which the writer has so often warned will inevitably occur as a result of that cleavage between architects and engineers for which the architects themselves are so largely responsible, and which tends to place the larger and more worth while work in the hands of what the public and the government seem to consider the less visionary, more practical, better equipped and better trained executive, the engineer.

Now that architects have so little else to do, perhaps they should devote themselves toward overcoming this handicap. One method might be to tackle the technical schools, abolish the separate registration laws, and frankly admit that an engineer is an architect and vice versa. Both are masterbuilders, and aesthetics are an important but secondary consideration in this machine age.

—Victor A. Matteson, I. S. A. — F. A. I. A., Chicago

Automobile graveyards yielded 350,000 tons of scrap metal during the month of April.

**Henry Webster Tomlinson**, retired Chicago and Joliet architect, died at his home in Joliet, July 11, age 72. Mr. Tomlinson was born in Chicago. He began his architectural career in the office of W. W. Boyington, Chicago architect, continued at Cornell University School of Architecture, traveled. While practicing in Chicago he designed and carried out one or more eleemosynary institutions for the state of North Dakota. Before 1918 he moved to Joliet as superintendent of the circular cell prisons to be built in Stateville after the plans of W. Carby Zimmerman. After this his assignments for prison work came to him directly from the state. In 1925 he toured Europe for the state of Illinois to inspect prisons. Besides this work for the state he had done private homes and commercial buildings. He was a member of the A. I. A. since 1908, serving as Secretary of the Chicago Chapter through many years. He was a member of the Illinois Society of Architects since March, 1913.

**Maurice B. Rissman**, Chicago architect, died in his home June 28, age 48 years. Mr. Rissman was born in New York City, graduated from Armour Institute of Technology 1915. He started independent practice in 1915 and in 1919 formed the firm of Rissman & Hirschfeld, architects. Among his works are Knickerbocker Hotel, Millinery Building, apartments at 2440 Lakeview Avenue and 3330 Lake Shore Drive, all in Chicago. He was a member of the Chicago Chapter A. I. A. and a member of the Illinois Society of Architects since 1921.

**Clarence Elbert Frazier**, Chicago architect, died in his home in Evanston June 11, age 60 years. Mr. Frazier was born in Napanee, Indiana where his father was a well-known architect. His early training in architecture was in his father's office. From there he came to Chicago and studied engineering in technical schools after which he went to work for Worthman & Steinbach, architects. In their office he was assigned the designing of Loyola University's Observatory. He was architect for homes in Glencoe, Winnetka, Evanston, an hotel for the Wieboldt stores and many smaller manufacturing plants. He was in independent practice 25 years. He became a member of the Illinois Society of Architects in November, 1922.